

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket P3988

In re the Reissue Application of:  
**DAVID CHOATE**

Serial No.: **Filed Herewith**

Filed: **Herewith**

For: **STORAGE DEVICE WITH SUPPORT  
CARRIER AND METHOD**

**PRELIMINARY COMMENT**

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

As a preliminary comment in support of the presently submitted reissue patent application, please consider the following.

The independent claims of issued U.S. Patent 5,482,226, while precisely describing the best mode of the invention, were more detailed than was required to describe the generic concept. Now, new claim 21 provides such a generic claim of the invention. New claim 21 meets the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st and 2nd paragraphs by "particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention."

Further, in support of new claim 21, please see paragraph (b) of allowed process claim 19. Review of allowed process claim 19 will show that the description at (b) of the "storage device and support carrier" apparatus used in the process closely parallels the generic elements set forth in new claim 21.

Claim 19 has been minimally amended to set forth the elements of the apparatus in a slightly more generic format.

It is urged that review of the application and of the known prior art would lead a person skilled in the art to which this invention pertains to the conclusion that the heart of the invention resides in the combination of "cord end retaining means", having a "plurality of cord receiving means", and "a plurality of indicia...corresponding to (the) plurality of cord receiving means." With those elements present and positively claimed,

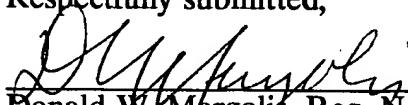
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the details of the reel and support system are not critical, and easily within the generic skill of an artisan of ordinary skill in the relevant field.

For the foregoing reasons, review, evaluation and allowance of the attached reissue application is requested, including amended claim 19 and new claim 21.

Please contact undersigned with any questions or comments.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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